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## Cohesion, Inc



**Dave Hafermann** 

|                 | Attomey General - Joh   | n Ashcroft From:          | Dave Hafermann        |                  |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Fax:            | (202) 307-1454          | Pages:                    | 2                     |                  |
| Phone:          |                         | Date:                     | 1/25/2002             |                  |
| Re:             | Microsoft Settlement    | CC:                       |                       |                  |
| □ Urg           | ent 🗆 For Review        | ☐ Please Comment          | ☐ Please Reply        | ☐ Please Recycle |
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| Attacl          | hed, please find my let | ter regarding the Microso | ift Anti-Trust Settle | ement.           |
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www.cohesioninc.com

January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I support the Microsoft antitrust settlement agreement. I have witnessed first hand how this case has created a great deal of uncertainty in the technological industry. It is time for the litigation to end so that companies that are within and/or dependent on the industry can get back to focusing on their own business and the delivery of great new technologies. Continuation of litigation will result in a never-ending legal cycle as companies attempt to use the legal system to accomplish what they were unable to do when competing within the marketplace (as the recently filed AOL/Netscape case shows). More litigation has a negative impact on the industry and economy, and with the current economic status, this is something the hi-tech industry does not need.

The terms of the agreement are both fair and reasonable. Microsoft will be subjected to restrictions that will help ensure no future antitrust violations occur. For example, Microsoft has agreed to not retaliate against computer manufacturers who install computers with its competitors' software. They have also agreed to license out code to competitors that would normally be protected under intellectual property statutes. Additionally, a technical oversight committee will be created as a result of the settlement agreement. The oversight committee will act as a watchdog to ensure Microsoft does not engage in anticompetitive business practices. Nothing more should be required or expected of Microsoft.

I appreciate your efforts to resolve this case. I hope the court makes the wise decision to approve the settlement agreement.

Sincerely,

Dave Hafermann EVP Technology

Cohesion, Inc.

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